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Coordination of United Nations activities related to geospatial information management

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and a background document prepared by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, which are available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and the background document, and to express its views on ways in which the United Nations geospatial community can better support stakeholders, and on how the expertise of the geographical naming community can better contribute to the activities of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

Summary of the report

At its third session, held in July 2013, the Committee of Experts, by decision 3/110, urged international organizations and agencies that collect geospatial data from countries to make them available in a transparent and coordinated manner; stressed the need for better coordination and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of geospatial information management activities, both within and outside the United Nations system; and requested the Secretariat and the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group to work together and report to the Committee of Experts in that regard.

* E/C.20/2014/1.

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The report of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group describes the activities of its members in fostering closer coordination with the Committee of Experts, commensurate with the initiatives of the Committee, and within the United Nations geospatial information community. The background document prepared by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names reflects an initiative of that community, which had voiced the need to work closely with the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.